



ROTOVUE

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MARINES MOMENTS MACHINES



A Year In Review 2005



Station CO sends best wishes during the holiday season



To the Marines, Family and Friends of MCAS New River
Happy Holidays!

As we near the end of the year 2005 it is a time to reflect on our accomplishments and look ahead to the upcoming year. I am certain that for most the past year has been a non-stop blur of activity. The sometimes frantic pace of our daily lives, our (or others) intent to fill every awakened moment with something to do, makes

most days seem endless. On those days that we finally get to ourselves, well let's just say they do not last long enough.
For many of our families it has been a year of both sadness and joy. As with every year we have had many Marines deploy and return. This holiday season we have many more deployed throughout the world in harm's way. Let us keep them and their families in our thoughts and prayers during this season. Extend to those families an invitation and share with them your

family celebrations.
The new year will pose new challenges, new joys, and in the end, new memories. As the year begins and we ponder those resolutions, be sure to include one to slow down a bit, keep safety in mind in all that you do, especially on our roads and highways.
Wishing all a very joyous holiday season and a prosperous and safe New Year.
Col. Stephen L. Forand
Station commanding officer

Station X-Mas Bash

Dec. 4, 2005 - To kick off the Christmas season, New River invited Marines, Sailors and families to attend the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony held at the Station Marina. The ceremony included a flotilla and a performance from a group of DeLalio Elementary School Children. (photo by Lance Cpl. Jonathan A. Tabb).



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ROTOVUE 2005

The Year in Review



Dec. 14, 2005 - It's hard to imagine that it's here already, that it's the end of a year and the beginning of another.

While putting this issue together, looking back over the events, pictures and stories that have appeared in the Rotovue throughout the year, it occurs to me that the more things change the more they stay the same.

This year in review issue and it's theme of Marines, Moments and Machines is an attempt to capture the three key elements that make up Marine Corps Air Station New River, its timeless events and its spirit.

No matter the year, the fights we're involved in nor the successes and failures we face, we will always be Marines. We will always live through moments that will shape our lives and those times that make us say to ourselves that this instant, this sight, this mission, is something that will never be forgotten.

Taking us through these moments, especially here in helicopter heaven, are those machines, the chariots Marines ride into battle.

The daily maintenance, training and flight hours put into these machines - our Ospreys, Sea Knights, Super Stallions, Cobras and Hueys - is what we do everyday and what makes us unique in the eyes of the Marine Corps.

This issue shows a small part of our journey and the never ending march of the United States Marine Corps and the Marines and Sailors

who serve at its call.

The end of year issue is a record of the people and moments that made up 2005 - homeruns hit, deployments completed, awards won and those special and unique Marines that make living and working on Station a rewarding experience.

In the end, it's natural to look toward the horizon and ask, "what's next?"

No one can really answer that question, but if its based on what transpired this year, there is only one certainty - Marines here will do it as well as any Marines in the Corps. Semper Fidelis and Ooh-Rah!

- Merry Christmas, Editor, Rotovue





Marines Moments Machines

Tip of the spear

June 4, 2005 - AL QAIM, Iraq -- Lance Cpl. Andy L. Vistrand, a UH-1N Huey crew chief assigned to Marine Light/Attack Helicopter Squadron-269, Detachment Al Qaim, scans the ground to find a target while practicing aerial gunnery June 4.

Vistrand, from Panama, N.Y., fires the .50 caliber machine gun every time he's out flying to improve his accuracy and ensure the weapon functions properly (Photo by Sgt. Juan Vara).

Station Marines have been making an impact throughout 2005 not only on deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, but as the air combat element of Marine expeditionary units. Working hard every day here at home, supporting their brothers-in-arms overseas and training with a purpose, Marines look forward, determined to be the tip of the spear.



< **Iraqi training guru**

Aug. 24, 2005 - Sergeant Thomas R. Fuller, Marine Aircraft Group-26 training, anti-terrorism and force protection chief, prepared nearly 1,000 Marines for deployment to a combat environment. An Oyster Bay, N.Y., native, Fuller also served as an instructor at the Regional Police and Border Patrol Academy in Al Asad, Iraq. (Photo by Sgt. Juan Vara).

Braveheart Marine >

Oct. 13, 2005 - Lance Cpl. David J. Flaherty, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron tactical data network specialist, plays his bagpipes outside the H&HS barracks, Oct. 13. David's family is a mix of Scottish and Irish – Scottish on his mother's side and Irish on his father's. The O'Flaitheartaigh family, part of the Connacht of Galway clan, was a prominent family in Ireland. When he was in high school, he used to play at least three to four hours per day and compete in competitions. Nowadays, however, Flaherty said he just likes to play for fun (photo by Lance Cpl. Jonathan A. Tabb).



< **Knight in shining armor**

Sept. 8, 2005 - Sergeant R. Jason Dagenhart, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-365 avionics technician, stands next to a CH-46E helicopter. Dagenhart took part in several rescue operations during relief efforts in New Orleans, including one in which he saved a one-year-old girl (photo by Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale).



< Dog escapes death

June 21, 2005 - Corporal Ian R. Burns, a military working dog handler from Farmingdale, Maine, takes a break from training with his partner, Cak. After surviving a deployment to Iraq, Cak developed a "splenic torsion" that almost ended his life (photo by Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola).

Super Sailor >

June 24, 2005 - Petty Officer 1st Class Shannon R. Dittlinger was recently named Sailor of the Year. She was selected from the more than 50,000 who competed.

Dittlinger, though proud of her achievements, believes that much of the credit for her success lies in the Marine Corps (photo by Cpl. Steven R. Sawyer).



< ARFF trains in ruined local inn

June 3, 2005 - Chief Warrant Officer Brian S. Becker, Station Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting officer-in-charge, drills through a ceiling during Operation Onslow Inn. The event was a unique opportunity for military and civilian emergency workers to train for a terrorist attack or destructive weather incident. Operation Onslow Inn was a mock terrorist attack training event organized by the North Carolina Department of Insurance and the Office of the State Fire Marshall to coincide with the destruction of the Onslow Inn on Highway 17 in Jacksonville (photo by Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale).



'Ironhorse' family survives cancer, proves Corps' spirit

Aug. 4, 2005 - Taupe walls. Doctor's offices always seem to have beige, soothing taupe walls. They're supposed to comfort patients and offer shelter from a coming storm. But when the bell tolls and physicians transform from white-coated wise men into black-cloaked skeletons sporting reapers, it hardly matters what color the walls are.

For Cpl. Joshua E. Getts, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron-461 expediter and Bloomington, Ind., native, the storm he weathered made landfall in the form of a lump, and when the bell tolled his name, his reaper grimly whispered "cancer" with dusty breath.

"I'm going to die, this is bad," explained Getts. "I thought, 'This has to be something else.' I had this sinking feeling for a good ten minutes before I went into a cold sweat."

A physical freak, built on the kind of hard work only the insane can enjoy, Getts said he always maxed his physical fitness test and once recorded a time of 14 minutes on the three-mile run. While deployed last year with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit, he claimed to have been forced to run on the deck of the USS Wasp after burning out the motors on several treadmills.

While serving with the MEU in Afghanistan in June 2004, he noticed a lump on the back of his left shoulder, and, in true Marine Corps tradition, ignored it. Later, while running, his knee became swollen and he was forced to make a medical appointment where, in passing, he mentioned the lump.

Two hours later, Getts was on a plane headed for Germany. He wasn't told why. His final destination was a Washington, D.C. medical center and the bad news -- he had developed bone cancer.

In the past year Getts has been through four surgeries, including work on his knee that claimed his joints ability to absorb the impact encountered during running. After his surgery, Getts plunged into a depression after realizing he would never physically be the same. His days of running were over.

On July 29-30, Getts participated in "24 Hours of Booty," a 24-hour bicycle race over a three-mile course in Charlotte, N.C., called "Booty Loop."

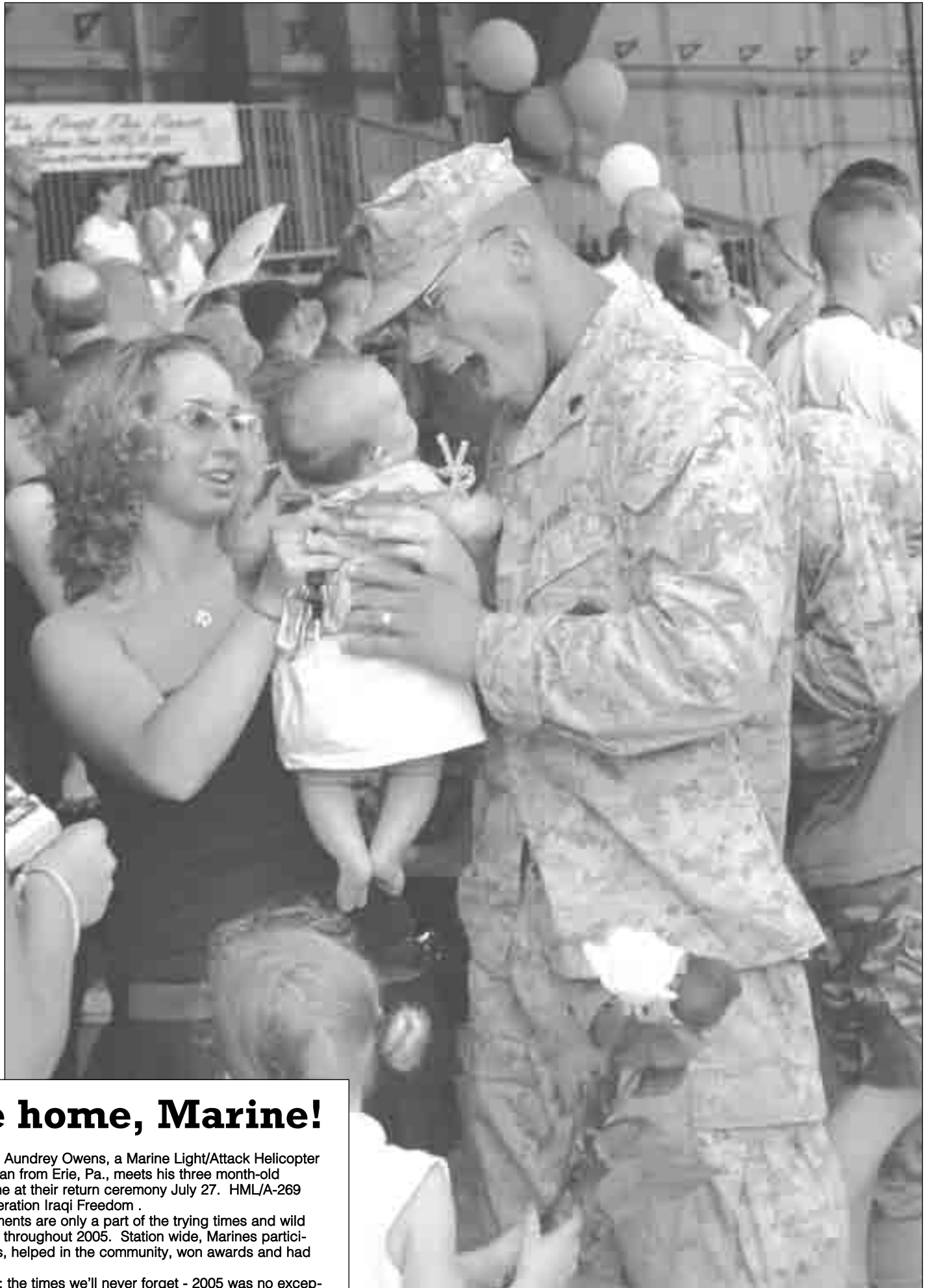
He planned to ride a total of 400 miles during the race or 20 miles per hour for 24 hours.

However, he came up short of his goal. He only rode a measly 390 miles, a distance that shattered the previous race record by 64 miles.

Getts plans to work in a bicycle shop and put some more miles on his own, to see if "he can make it a go somewhere."

The bell may toll for Getts' Marine Corps career, but the reaper's going to have to wait for the rest. His life is far from over (Story and photo by Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola).

Marines Moments Machines



Welcome home, Marine!

July 27, 2005 - Corporal Aundrey Owens, a Marine Light/Attack Helicopter Squadron-269 avionics technician from Erie, Pa., meets his three month-old daughter, Alexis, for the first time at their return ceremony July 27. HML/A-269 was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom .

Homecomings and deployments are only a part of the trying times and wild victories Marines were a part of throughout 2005. Station wide, Marines participated in training, special events, helped in the community, won awards and had fun.

Life is lived in the moments; the times we'll never forget - 2005 was no exception to this rule (photo by Cpl. Ezekiel R. Kitandwe).



It's outta here! ^

June 16, 2005 - Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron third baseman and power hitter Shaun Lada blasts a third-inning pitch over the left center field wall during the Marine Corps Community Services Intramural Softball Championship game against Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-29. Lada, an air traffic control clerk, hit two home-runs in three plate appearances, producing four RBIs. He was awarded the game ball for his performance. H&HS slipped past MALS-29 with a final score of 21-19 (photo by Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola).

✓ ATFP helps Station training

April 9, 2005 - A Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C. firefighter helps another put on a chemical protective suit during the North Carolina Regional Exercise '05. The exercise tested the area's anti-terrorism/force protection readiness and involved a scripted scenario designed to test the reaction capabilities of MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C., Marine Corps Air Stations Cherry Point, N.C. and New River, N.C., and civilian emergency and relief organizations to a terrorist attack (photo by Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale).





✓ **Untouchable
Marines
train for Iraq**

April 13, 2005 - Marines from Marine Wing Support Squadron-272 prepare to face left and begin firing during training on the Enhanced Marksmanship Program range. The squadron deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in August (photo by Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale).



**IPAC in
the field** ^

April 22, 2005 - An Installation Personnel Administration Center Marine uses a wall for protection while checking for enemy activity during a class on crossing danger areas (photo by Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale).



VP visit ^

Oct. 3, 2005 - Vice President Dick Cheney addresses MCAS New River Marines during his visit to the Air Station. Many Marines in the crowd recently returned from supporting Joint Task Force Katrina (photo by Lance Cpl. John D. Cranford).



Make-a-wish of hope ^

April 22, 2005 -Angelo "A.J." Circo, a nine-year-old boy from Brookfield, Ill., a suburb of Chicago, likes to eat pizza. He sports a slight build, fiery auburn hair and wire-rimmed glasses that make him look like a young Harry Potter. His favorite music is heavy metal and he loves bright blue colors. He does well in school and loves his family. Just as it should be, but not quite.

He suffers from Crohn's disease, diabetes and hereditary pancreatitis. He's been in and out of hospitals and spends an awful lot of time with men in white coats. He has to check his blood sugar and gets tired more often than he would like.

Through his chronic agony, he manages to smile. After all, he's just a boy and loves the military. His favorite movie is "Black Hawk Down," and if he could have one wish for one day, A.J. would wish that he could

be around the United States Marines.

Enter the Make-A-Wish foundation and a few Marines with compassion.

After being approached by Make-A-Wish, A.J. hoped that he could "drive or ride in a tank, take a tour of a Marine base and ride in a helicopter, if possible." The Marines were contacted, and Marine Light/Attack Helicopter Squadron-167 received their mission with open arms and hearts and helped to grant A.J.'s wish.

"This is a big deal for me, I feel like providence has taken over," said Lt. Col. Christopher M. Clayton, HML/A-167 commanding officer and UH-1N Huey pilot for the flight. "The reason I say that is, a little over five years ago, my daughter was a

Make-A-Wish kid. She had a malignant germinoma, which is a brain tumor, and we just celebrated five years of remission. After my daughter received her Make-A-Wish trip, this is something that I felt I can give back."

A.J. and his father, Richard Circo, arrived at the squadron hangar and were given V.I.P. treatment. Static displays of both the Huey and the AH-1W Super Cobra, complete with mounted guns, were waiting along with a full flight suit, dog tags and a helmet for A.J.

"My only wish was to get real close and climb onto a tank, but my mom told everybody that I wanted to drive a tank," said A.J. "When the Make-A Wish people came to our house they asked, 'what's your secondary wish' and I said, 'ride in a helicopter.' That's what really started things."

After being outfitted in the proper flight gear, A.J. and his father walked out onto the flightline and got their first look at the Huey they would be riding in. Clayton and his

crew chiefs helped strap everyone in their seats and shortly after, A.J. was skimming across North Carolina treetops.

The flight extended down to Topsail Beach, N.C., and around the city of Jacksonville, with A.J. even helping to pilot the Huey.

"The helicopter today was amazing; the view was beautiful," said Circo. "I was amazed at how smooth they were."

"It was neat. Very neat," added A.J. "I wish I could stay here for two more weeks."

After the flight, HML/A-167 gathered in the hangar and welcomed A.J. as one their own. Clayton even bestowed A.J. with the call sign of "Red."

"It's a great feeling that a young kid from Middle America would like to come and see what the Marines are doing. I think it's great, and we welcomed him to this," said Clayton. "The American public loves the Marine Corps. The reverse is true, too. The Marines, to a man, as I have found, are absolutely loyal to the public. They believe in what they're doing. To be able to go that extra little bit for a young kid says a lot for the Marines and a lot for the Marine Corps. This is an opportunity for us here, to give something a little extra. That just means a lot."

"It's an amazing foundation, what they pull-off," said Circo. "That's the problem. You get to a point where you say, 'what do you look forward to.' You really get down in the dumps. This gave us a goal to shoot for and that made all the difference in the world."

A.J. and his family will return to Illinois and continue to fight the unseen enemies that try and tear away his smile.

No matter how sick, no matter what may come, he can swim in the deep waters of a healing memory and hold tight to the hope that comes with it. No matter what the future holds for A.J., he will always be able to remember the Marines and the time he became a young "devil dog" for a day. He can go on eating pizza, doing homework and being a nine-year-old boy. Just as it should be (photo and story by Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola).



Marines Moments & Machines



Future birds of prey

Aug. 12, 2005 - A line of MV-22 Ospreys warm-up before joining 16 others in flight over the Station Aug. 12. According to Col. Glen M. Walters, Marine Tiltrotor Test and Evaluation Squadron-22 commanding officer, the sheer number of aircraft flying at one time is a testament to the squadron's ability (photo by Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola)

It's the machines, the birds, that are the lifeblood of MCAS New River. Marines train, eat and sleep combat aviation and the year of 2005 marked an exciting new era not only for the Corps, but for our Station as well.



< Hurricane no match for Station Marines

Sept. 4, 2005 - The Marines and Sailors of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron-461 (-) Reinforced worked in support of Joint Task Force Katrina, the large-scale relief effort to help citizens of the Gulf Coast left homeless from Hurricane Katrina.

The squadron included personnel, equipment and helicopters from both HMM-464 and Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-365 and deployed from Marine Corps Air Station New River on Sept. 1.

"We are here as long as it takes to take care of these people," said Sgt. Maj. Larry C. Jones, HMM-461 (-) rein., sergeant major. "No Marine or Sailor will complain about being here. They know that every man, woman and child is worth the effort." (photo by Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale).

Behind the scenes >

April 27, 2005 - AL ASAD, Iraq - Corporal Jason Sam, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-264 airframes mechanic and native of Freehome, Ga., removes a torque link while preparing an auxiliary strut for installation on a CH-46E Sea Knight on April 27. The mechanics in the squadron are working long hours day and night to keep the helicopters in the best condition possible.

Pilots and crew chiefs are often in the spotlight because of their actions on the front lines, but they probably wouldn't have reached that point without the hard work of helicopter mechanics. Again and again, these Marines ensure the birds stay in the air.

They're generally in grease-stained coveralls, turning wrenches and pumping hydraulic fluid day and night to keep the birds fit to fight.

The mechanics from the avionics, flightline and airframes work centers have kept the Sea Knight an invaluable asset to the Marine Corps for more than 40 years (photo by Sgt. Juan Vara).





Fueling exercise ^

June 29, 2005 - The Huey arrives on the scene and is guided quickly to an appropriate landing zone to begin the rapid ground refueling process. The "Ironhorses" of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron-461 train hard in their CH-53E Super Stallions to provide air support to a MAGTF and keep evil at bay, showing it June 29 by practicing a rapid ground refueling operation at Marine Corps Outlying Field, Oak Grove, N.C. (photo by Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola).

< Big brass check

June 14, 2005 - Lance Cpl. Adam M. Stinley, an aviation ordnance technician with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-26, Detachment Al Qaim, inspects 20 mm rounds to ensure they are in good condition before issuing them out to Marines from Marine Light/Attack Helicopter Squadron-269, Detachment Al Qaim, on June 14 (photo by Sgt. Juan Vara).

Flock of birds! >

Aug. 12, 2005 - A flock of 16 MV-22 Ospreys from Marine Tiltrotor Test and Evaluation Squadron-22 launch from the flight deck, signaling the beginning of their historic flight above the Station Aug. 12. The flight was a training opportunity that gave the "Argonauts" a chance to demonstrate the entire squadron's technical proficiency (photo by Cpl. Steven R. Sawyer).





Motivated education ^

Aug. 12, 2005 -- AL ASAD, Iraq -

In January 1996, a young man from New Orleans enlisted in the Marine Corps without a high school diploma. Less than six years later he had a college degree and was a second lieutenant. He wasn't done.

Taking advantage of the opportunities servicemembers have to continue their education, 1st Lt. Jeremy A. Robinson traded his stripes and crossed rifles for gold bars almost four years ago.

In 1994, when his mother was diagnosed with cancer, Robinson dropped out of high school and took up several jobs to sustain the family. Interested in bettering himself, he got a General Education Development certificate from the state of Louisiana and attended Delgado Community College for a year. In January 1996 he enlisted in the Marine Corps.

Upon completion of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C., he was meritoriously promoted to private first class. He later completed Marine Combat Training, where he was meritoriously promoted to lance corporal.

After becoming an aviation maintenance administrative clerk, Robinson traveled to Okinawa, Japan, and reported to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-265 where without even one year in the Corps, he was promoted to corporal.

His second unit was Marine Aviation Training Support Group-21, in Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla., where he served as an operations clerk. On his off time, mostly at night, he attended Pensacola Junior College.

The operations officer in the unit, a prior-enlisted Marine who had reached the rank of gunnery sergeant before becoming a warrant officer and moving up to the rank of lieutenant colonel, noticed Robinson's interest in education.

"He noticed I was taking classes at night and knocking out my homework at lunch time and counseled me about putting in a package for [the Meritorious

Enlisted Commissioning Education Program]," said Robinson.

Robinson, hungry for more knowledge, followed the advice and was one of approximately 50 corporals to get selected for the program. Prior to leaving the unit, in less than four years of service, he was promoted to sergeant.

Auburn University welcomed Robinson in 1999. In August 2001 he received a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and was commissioned a second lieutenant.

After completing aviation maintenance officers' school he joined Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-26, based at Marine Corps Air Station, New River, N.C., and served as the airframes division officer.

In November 2003 he joined his current unit, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-264, as the maintenance material control officer. Juggling the workload of a unit that has been constantly deploying in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, he continued working on the aerial observer syllabus and received the aircrew wing insignia on April 1.

"That was a great feeling," he said. "Finally finishing what I started and receiving my wings nine years later, as an officer."

In Iraq since earlier this year, Robinson has raked up approximately 100 flight-hours with about 80 of those being in combat missions. He now wears the combat aircrew wing insignia, a device that recognizes the job done by aircrew personnel in combat.

"Flying is great," he said. "I missed it. I got all caught up with my training, but by flying here I feel like I contributed to the entire effort."

Robinson, recently selected for promotion to captain, is scheduled to return to the U.S. and report to MALS-42 in Marietta, Ga. Not completely done with his education goals, he plans to attend law school at Georgia State University for his master's degree.

(Story and photo by Sgt. Juan Vara).



Lifeblood ^v

June 17 and 29, 2005 - (Above) Lance Cpl. James E. Gayheart, a UH-1N and AH-1W plane captain with Marine Light/Attack Helicopter Squadron-269, Detachment Al Qaim refuels an AH-1W Super Cobra before it takes off on a mission June 17. (Below) A crew chief with Marine Light/Attack Helicopter Squadron-167 attaches the main fuel line from the CH-53 to the UH-1N Huey and begins the process of refueling. (photos by Sgt. Juan Vara and Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola).





Getting around

Aug. 10, 2005 - AL ASAD, Iraq – Sergeant Dustin W. Lambert, an airframes mechanic with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-26, poses with the chopper he built to move around the air base in a unique fashion. Lambert, from Alamosa, Colo., built his bike from scrap aluminum tubes he scavenged from around the base (photo by Sgt. Juan Vara).

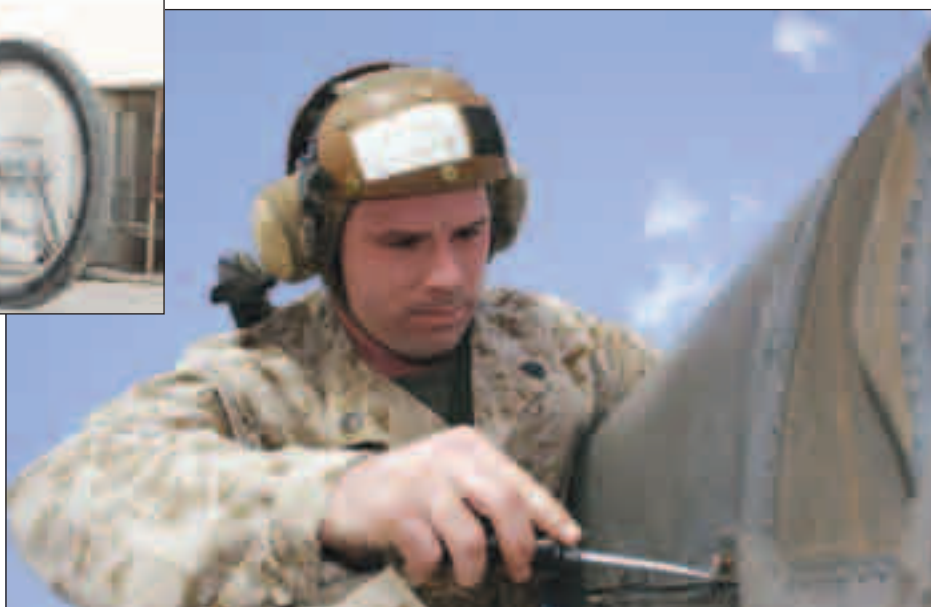


‘War Eagles’ gear-up for deployment

April 12, 2005 - Marines from Echo Co. 2nd Battalion 2nd Marine Regiment charge Atlantic Field during Operation Carolina Thunder, a training exercise designed to help Marine Aircraft Group-29 gear-up for this summer's Desert Talon 02-05 exercise (photo by Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola).

All in a day's work

March 12, 2005 - AL ASAD, Iraq -- Staff Sgt. Roger W. King, a helicopter mechanic assigned to Marine Light/Attack Helicopter Squadron-269 and Gravette, Ark., native, reinstalls the tunnel cowling of a UH-1N Huey after daily and turnaround inspections of the tail rotor driveshaft March 12. King recently re-enlisted and will make a lateral move to become an MV-22 Osprey mechanic (photo by Sgt. Juan Vara).



The night before christmas

'T was the night before Christmas,
He lived all alone,
In a one bedroom house made of
plaster and stone.
I had come down the chimney
with presents to give,
And to see just who
In this home did live.
I looked all about,
A strange sight I did see,
No tinsel, No presents,
Not even a tree.
No stocking by mantle,
Just boots filled with sand,
On the wall hung pictures
Of far distant lands.
With medals and badges,
Awards of all kinds,

A somber thought
Came through my mind.
For this house was different,
It was dark and dreary,
I found the home of a Marine,
One I could see clearly.
The Marine lay sleeping,
Silent, Alone,
Curled up on the floor,
In this one bedroom home.
The face was so gentle,
The room in such disorder,
Not how I pictured
A United States Marine.

Was this the hero of whom I'd
just read?
Curled up on a poncho, the floor for
a bed?
I realized the families
That I saw this night,
Owed their lives to these Marines
Who were willing to fight.
Soon round the world,
The children would play,
And grownups would celebrate
A bright Christmas Day.

They all enjoyed freedom
Each month of the year,
Because of the Marines,
Like the one lying here.
I couldn't help wonder
How many lay alone,
On a cold Christmas Eve
In a land far from home.
The very thought
Brought a tear to my eye,
I dropped to my knees
And started to cry.

The Marine awakened
And I heard a rough voice,
"Santa don't cry,
This life is my choice;
I fight for Freedom,
I don't ask for more,
My life is my God,
My Country, My Corps."

The Marine rolled over
And drifted to sleep,
I couldn't control it,
I continued to weep.
I kept watch for hours,
So silent and still
And we both shivered
From the cold night's chill.
I didn't want to leave
On that cold, dark, night,
This Guardian of Honor
So willing to fight.

Then the Marine rolled over,
With a voice soft and pure,
Whispered, "Carry on Santa,
It's Christmas Day, all is secure."
One look at my watch, and I knew
he was right.
"Merry Christmas my friends, and to
all a Good Night."

- Written by an anonymous Marine
stationed in Okinawa, Japan

